



FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor

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A Periodic Publication for Indiana AmeriCorps* Programs and Community Service Partners

May 5, 2006

Volume 6 , Issue 12



Welcome to Friday Night Facts ! This week's issue of Friday Night Facts once again is primarily focused on health issues. Regardless of our station in life, the quality of an individual's health or that of a family member or friend seems to be part of the daily discussion. Last evening, I attended one of the Forums that FSSA is participating in to discuss the dilemma of how to cover the cost of health care for our citizens who are uninsured. The discussion was lively and complicated. Representatives from the faith community, small businesses, county government, non-profits and state government were peppered with many questions. There were few definitive answers. This kind of discussion will happen across the state for several months until an answer emerges. Hopefully, you will find the time to attend the forum in your area (see page 3 for the listings).

Secretary Michael Leavitt will visit Indianapolis this Sunday to encourage seniors to enroll in Medicare Part D. He will visit Mt. Paran Missionary Baptist Church, Second Baptist Church and the Raphael Health Center. Join us at Raphael Health Center at Noon to welcome Secretary Leavitt to Indiana.

FREE Skin Cancer Screenings

Did you know that over 1 million Americans are diagnosed each year with skin cancer? It is the most common form of cancer. Did you know that more than 62,000 people will be diagnosed with malignant melanoma this year? This is the most life threatening type of skin cancer. Did you know it is important to check any unusual blemish, mole or other marking on your skin?

May is skin cancer awareness month. The American Cancer Society along with hospitals around Central Indiana have teamed together to present **free screenings**. The screenings are open to anyone regardless of race, age and insurance status. They will be examined by a licensed dermatologist or nurse. Please take advantage of this potentially life-saving opportunity. To register for these free screenings and for more information about specific times, call 800-ACS-2345. The screenings are during the months of May and June at these locations.

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| May 8 th | Ball Memorial Hospital, Jay County |
| May 9 th | Columbus Regional Hospital, Columbus |
| May 10 th | St. Vincent Hospital, Carmel |
| May 11 th | Community Regional Cancer Care |
| May 12 th | Central Indiana Cancer Centers, Greenfield Central Indiana Cancer Centers, Fishers |
| May 13 th | Hendricks Regional Health, Avon Hendricks Regional Health, Plainfield |
| May 17 th | St. Vincent Hospital, Fishers |
| May 18 th | Ball Memorial Hospital, Muncie Johnson Memorial Hospital, Franklin |
| May 19 th | Central Indiana Cancer Centers, South |
| May 20 th | St. Francis Hospital, Mooresville St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis |
| May 22 nd | Ball Memorial Hospital, Blackford County |
| May 25 th | Methodist Hospital |
| May 26 th | Central Indiana Cancer Centers, East |
| June 3 | St. Francis Cancer Care, Indianapolis |

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Here are two grant competitions that can assist faith-based and community organizations working to build stronger rural communities.

Technical and Supervisory Assistance (TSA) Grants: The Rural Housing Service, an agency under USDA, Rural Development announces it is soliciting competitive applications under its Technical and Supervisory Assistance (TSA) grant program. Grants will be awarded to eligible applicant organizations to conduct programs of technical and supervisory assistance for low-income rural residents to obtain and/or maintain occupancy of adequate housing. This grant competition is open to faith-based and community organizations. Pre-application proposals are **due by May 17, 2006**.

For more information on this grant opportunity, please view the full announcement at:

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=9082> or contact Nica Mathes, Senior Loan Specialist, USDA Rural Development Single Family Housing Direct Loan Division, phone: (202) 205-3656 or (202) 720-1474, fax: (202) 720-2232, e-mail: nica.mathes@wdc.usda.gov

Non-Urban Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP): The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, announces a grant competition (1) to provide services to assist in reintegrating homeless veterans into meaningful employment within the labor force, and (2) to stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems that will address the complex problems facing homeless veterans. Successful applicants will design programs that assist eligible veterans by providing job placement services, job training, counseling, supportive services, and other assistance to expedite the reintegration of homeless veterans into the labor force. This grant competition is open to faith-based and community organizations. Proposals are **due by May 22, 2006**.

For more information on this grant opportunity, please view the full announcement at:

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=9161> or contact Cassandra Mitchell, Grants Management Specialist, phone: (202)693-4570, e-mail: mitchell.cassandra@dol.gov

The Department of Commerce's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives can share with you ongoing grant opportunities. Any organization focused on community and economic development can sign up for their listserve at: http://www.osec.doc.gov/fbci/DOCFBCI_ListServ.htm

Bonding for Government Contracts

Federal, state and local governments require bonds from small businesses bidding on contracts and for performance. The SBA bonding seminar will provide guidance for meeting with contract bonding agents. Attendees will learn:

- The basics of bonding requirements for government contracts
- How to obtain a surety bond
- How to select a surety bond agent
- Costs of bonding
- Requirements and eligibility for receiving bonding

This seminar will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2006 from 2 PM to 3:30 PM at the SBA Indiana District Office, 8500 Keystone Crossing, Suite 400, in Indianapolis. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will team with the Indiana Surety Association to conduct this informational seminar. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.** SBA is sponsoring this seminar. There is no charge for attendance. For reservations, please contact: Mike Hasler (317) 226-7272 ext. 241 or Mike.hasler@sba.gov

STATEWIDE FORUMS ON ACCESS TO HEALTH INSURANCE

Mitch Roob, Secretary of the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), will be holding a series of public forums around the state regarding the uninsured in Indiana. The audience will have the opportunity to comment. The schedule for these forums is as follows:

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| May 9 | 6:00—8:00 PM | Ivy Tech Campus, 3502 First Avenue, Evansville |
| May 10 | 9:00—11:00 AM | Shircliff Theater, 1002 N. First Steet, Vincennes |
| May 10 | 4:00—6:00 PM | Poplars, 1900 S. Walnut, Bloomington |
| May 18 | 1:00—3:00 PM | Ball Memorial Hospital, 2401 W. University Ave, Muncie |
| May 22 | 1:00—3:00 PM | Wabash, 119 Green Street, Crawfordsville |
| May 30 | 1:00—3:00 PM | Ivy Tech Campus, 3800 N. Anthony Blvd, Fort Wayne |
| May 30 | 6:00—8:00 PM | Lakeland High School, 805 East 75N, LaGrange |
| May 31 | 8:30 -10:30 AM | Ivy Tech Campus, 2521 Industrial Pkwy, Elkhart |
| June 6 | 10:00 AM - NOON | Ivy Tech Campus, 7999 S. Highway 41, Terre Haute |

Indiana increases funding for low-income family childcare assistance

Savings from better administration of welfare will be used to provide more low-income families with child care in the coming months. Governor Mitch Daniels announced on May 3rd that the state has freed up an additional \$18 million for 2006 and 2007 to help low-income families pay for childcare, eliminating the waiting list for childcare vouchers.

The additional money will provide care for 3,000 more children, a 10 percent increase, and will reduce the average wait time for vouchers from an average of 49 days to as few as 10 days, as funding is applied.

“A stronger state economy has put 85,000 more Hoosiers to work in the past 15 months. Meanwhile, we’re getting serious about moving people from welfare to work. Together that means more need for childcare vouchers, and we intend to meet it. People who are willing to work and become self-reliant must be helped to do so,” said Daniels.

The additional funds are from the annual Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant. Mitch Roob, secretary of the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), said that as the state has improved its error rate by removing people who did not qualify for assistance, funds have been freed up for the childcare voucher program. For the remainder of this year, \$6 million will be available; in 2007, \$12 million is available for use.

Often, according to FSSA, working parents quit their jobs at the end of the school year to stay home with their children because they cannot afford childcare. More funding will turn that trend.

“Studies show that children of low-income families often start school a year and half behind their peers. By giving low income families access to high-quality early care, this gap can be narrowed. High quality childcare meets a child’s developmental, emotional, social and cognitive needs so that children are ready to start school. This early learning leads to future academic success,” said Roob.

Families qualify for childcare vouchers when a parent is working or attending school and the household income is at 127 percent of the federal poverty level (\$15,670 per year for a family of three).

Beginning immediately, parents eligible for child vouchers on the waiting list will be notified by mail and asked to contact an intake agency. Included with the letter is a list of guidelines to help parents select the best childcare provider for their children, including questions about the quality of care both in terms of health/safety and developmentally appropriate activities.

Currently, 30,665 children in Indiana receive childcare vouchers.



Pandemic Flu Prep

This week's segment contains general questions and answers for Homeless Population/Shelters. If you would like further information, please visit <http://www.pandemicflu.gov>



If an influenza pandemic were to occur, how should the homeless be notified and cared for?

Homeless people should **not** be encouraged to come to shelters. Close contact actually increases the spread of the disease. Instead, educate outreach workers ahead of time about signs and symptoms of influenza and what to watch for while they are doing normal distribution of supplies. There may be a need to increase the distribution of supplies to keep people away from the shelters. If health care providers wish to check on people in the streets, they should be accompanied by a regular outreach worker because strangers are often not trusted by the homeless population. A third person to act as a scribe and do charting would also be helpful.

What should the homeless know about a possible influenza pandemic? The homeless population should be aware of the threat and should be educated about symptoms and about when medical care is and is not necessary. Mild symptoms like a slight cough, runny nose, and sore throat with no fever and no difficulty breathing may not require medical attention.

What should outreach and shelter workers be taught? Outreach workers should know how to take temperatures and at what point to refer a person to medical care. Shelter staff should know how to identify symptoms such as a high fever (100 degrees and over) and severe cough. They should also be taught simple steps that can help reduce the spread of the disease. These steps include: Encourage staff and clients to cough into tissues and dispose tissues in the trash; encourage frequent hand washing; hang sheets between beds if sleeping is dorm style; wear gloves when picking up trash, changing bed linens, and doing general cleaning.

What steps should be taken at a shelter during a pandemic? In a pandemic, shelter staff should use the Incident Command System (ICS) to manage the situation. This means placing someone in charge of the whole program, and then others in charge of specific areas such as logistics, supplies, and medical care. Special consideration should be given to the following issues: Take care of staff mentally and physically so they will be able to continue to work under stressful conditions; ask for mental health support at the shelters; serve meals in shifts so people will not have to sit so close together and fewer people will be at the shelter at any one time; prepare for increased security if crowd control is necessary. Use familiar people such as outreach workers or members of the homeless population if possible. Law enforcement personnel may have a negative impact.

What other issues need to be considered? There are several potential issues that may need to be addressed and planned for in advance. They include: Use outreach workers who know the areas where the most people are located to give medical care or prophylaxis on the street; arrange for hand washing stations at the more populous homeless areas; some homeless people have jobs, so evaluation and care may need to be provided after hours; people at domestic violence shelters should be visited at their shelter. They should not be asked to go out for medical evaluation and treatment.
